

CLAIMS

1. A vacuum cleaner hose assembly (3, 3', 3'', 3''') including a flexible hose (5) and a rigid cleaning wand (6, 6', 6'', 6''') attached at the forward end of the hose, characterised in that the wand (6, 6', 6'', 6''') extends rearwardly along a part of the length of the hose (5), and that the wand has a section with an open wall structure by which the weight of the wand is reduced.
2. A vacuum cleaner hose assembly (3, 3', 3'', 3''') according to Claim 1, characterised in that the wand (6, 6', 6'', 6''') has two sections (64 and 65, 64' and 65', 64'' and 65'', 64''' and 65''') that can slide telescopically with one another such that the wand can have an extended length or a shorter retracted length.
3. A vacuum cleaner hose assembly according to Claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the or each section (64 and 65, 64' and 65', 64'' and 65'', 64''' and 65''') of the wand has one or two longitudinal struts (66 and 67, 72 and 73, 66', 73', 66'', 73'') between which are one or two windows (70, 76, 70'', 76'').
4. A vacuum cleaner hose assembly (3, 3', 3'', 3''') according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the hose (5) is retractable in length.
5. A vacuum cleaner hose assembly (3, 3', 3'', 3''') according to Claim 4, characterised in that a major part of the length of the hose (5) is stowable within the wand (6, 6', 6'', 6''') when not in use.
6. A vacuum cleaner hose assembly (3, 3', 3'', 3''') according to Claim 4 or 5, characterised in that the hose (5) is retractable in length by suction applied by a vacuum cleaner unit (1).
7. A vacuum cleaner including a vacuum cleaner unit (1) and a hose assembly (3, 3', 3'', 3''') according to any one of the preceding claims.